5th February 1934]

(*b*) the number of cattle that died on account of the effect of the cyclone and the number of human lives that were lost during and by reason of the cyclone of December 1933 in the various taluks of South Arcot;

(*c*) the measures that were taken by the Government to afford relief to the ryots affected by the cyclone and the measures proposed to be taken in the several taluks of the district;

(*d*) whether any representations have been received by the Government or the District Collector of South Arcot from the ryots or associations of ryots and mirasidars as to the necessity for and the inadequacy of relief given to the ryots of the cyclone-affected areas in the district of South Arcot;

(*e*) what the nature and scope of the representations are; and

(*f*) what the action already taken or proposed to be taken by the Government is in respect of the said representations?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The information received by the Government has been given in the Press Communiqué, dated 12th January 1934.

(*d*) Some petitions asking for relief on account of damage caused by the cyclone have been received by the Government. Copies of some of these petitions appear to have been sent to the Collector also.

(*e*) The main requests contained in the petitions received by the Government are—

(1) that assessment should be reduced or that a portion of the land revenue should be remitted;

(2) that tree tax should be reduced;

(3) that land revenue should be collected in six instalments or that kists should be postponed; and

(4) that loans should be granted free of interest or at reduced rates of interest.

(*f*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Communiqué mentioned in the answer to clauses (*a*) to (*c*). The ordinary remissions for loss of crop admissible under the Board's Standing Orders will be granted. The question whether any special concessions should be given will be considered by the Collector.

Prices and Wages

Reports on the economic condition of the Province.

* 630 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the reports on prices of paddy and the agricultural situation from Collectors of all districts; and

[5th February 1934

(b) whether they will be pleased to place these reports in a consolidated form on the table of this House?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not received the reports but have received from the Board of Revenue a summary of the reports. This[a] is placed on the table of the House.

Prisons and Prisoners

Supply of buttermilk to 'C' class prisoners.

* 631 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been passed in the matter of supply of buttermilk to 'C' class prisoners in jails;

(b) if so, what it is and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table; and

(c) how long this matter has been under the consideration of the Government?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 554.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is that buttermilk cannot be made an article of diet to 'C' class prisoners, and the answer to the second part of the question is in the negative.

(c) The question was under the consideration of Government for some months.

Control of Vehicles

Authorization of District Superintendents of Police to issue 'G' permits to motor vehicles plying for hire.

* 632 Q.—Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided that in future District Superintendents of Police should be responsible for the grant of 'G' permits to motor vehicles plying for hire instead of the District Magistrates;

(b) whether a large number of bus-owners have protested against this proposal; and, if so, on what grounds; and

(c) whether it is a fact that at present District Magistrates, when leaving headquarters, authorize Additional District Magistrates or Treasury Deputy Collectors to issue the permits?

A.—(a) The Government are hoping to issue orders in this matter shortly.

(b) Several bus-owners, mostly belonging to the Tanjore district, have protested against the proposal for the following reasons:—

(1) that the present system is satisfactory;

---

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 524–554 infra.